N 09/954,555

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

oplicant:

THOMPSON ET AL.

Examiner:

A. STEWART

Serial No.:

09/954,555

Group Art Unit:

3738

Filed:

SEP 1 1 2003

SEPTEMBER 17, 2001

Docket No.:

11576.55USI1

Title:

IMPLANT DELIVERY SYSTEM WITH INTERLOCK

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 8, 2003.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

RECEIVED SEP 1 6 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a four-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed April 7, 2003, said period of response being extended from May 7, 2003 to September 7, 2003, which was a Sunday, further extending said period of response to Monday, September 8, 2003.

Our check in the amount of \$1450.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Karen A. Fitzsimmon

Reg. No. 50,470

KAF:PSTpmc

09/12/2003 MMEKONEN 00000078 132725 09954555 1450.00 OP 01 FC:1254